Declassification II Status: USGS Receiving Declassified Satellite Imagery

The USGS is expected to receive over 50,000 frames of declassified satellite imagery on or about August 23, 2002. The supporting metadata and browse files are expected to arrive a week earlier after NARA receives their copy of the collection (August 15).

This second round of declassification involves imagery acquired from 1963-67 (KH-7) and 1973-1980 (KH-9). The KH-7 imagery were used to generate large scale maps of specific airfields, harbors, cities and missile sites in support of the Corona missions. The KH-9 imagery were used for global map making efforts geodetic control, etc).

The imagery are in a 9 inch format. A total of 29,000 frames involve a 9 X 18 inch format and the remainder of the collection involves variable length images that range from 9 X 1 foot up to and exceeding 9 X 32 feet. The imagery is predominantly black & white (less than 1000 feet of color negative film out of the 93,000 linear feet in the collection).

NIMA has scheduled a public announcement for September 20, 2002 at the University of Maryland University College Inn and Conference Center in Adelphi, MD (just down the road from the NARA II facility). USGS representatives will be in attendance.